



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Shepard Building
255 Westminster Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903-3400

Enclosure 5a3
December 20, 2016

Ken Wagner, Ph.D.
Commissioner

December 20, 2016

TO: Members of the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education
FROM: Ken Wagner, Ph.D., Commissioner *KW*
RE: **Segue Institute for Learning – Request for Charter Expansion Amendment**

I present for your consideration a recommendation to deny Segue Institute for Learning's request for an expansion.

Amendment Request for Expansion:

Segue Institute for Learning is an independent charter located in Central Falls. Segue currently serves 238 students in grades 6-8, all from Central Falls. Segue requested an amendment to its charter to increase the charter's enrollment from its authorized enrollment of 240 students in grades 6-8 to 360 students across grades K-8. All students will be enrolled from Segue's currently approved catchment area of Central Falls.

In accordance to R.I.G.L. §16-77.3-3, requests for amendments to a charter for expansion require the action of the Council of Elementary and Secondary Education. Further, when considering the overall merits of a charter expansion request, R.I.G.L. § 16-77.3-3 requires the Council to place substantial weight on the fiscal impact on the city or town, programmatic impact on the sending school district, and the educational impact on the students in the sending district to ensure that the proposal is economically prudent for the city or town, and academically prudent for the proposed sending school district and for all students in the sending district.

RIDE has conducted an in-depth review of the proposed amendment request, including Segue's track record of academic performance, public feedback, and the impact that the proposed expansion request would have on local communities.

RIDE has concluded that, while Segue has demonstrated commendable growth over recent years, Segue does not yet possess a clear, sustained track record of high academic performance. At the present time, the Commissioner recommends the Council deny the proposed amendment for expansion for Segue, and encourages Segue to resubmit an expansion request once it has demonstrated a sustained track record of high academic performance.

RECOMMENDATION: THAT, the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education moves to deny the Segue Institute for Learning charter amendment for expansion.

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